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Shibata Defence To Open

The prosecution declared its case closed at the continued trial before No. 6 War Crimes Court yesterday of Capt. Shibata Shigeo, Commanding Officer of the Eastern Kempetai Headquarters from August 13, 1943, to February 19, 1945, and Sgt. Major Oba Takao, attached to the same Headquarters, who are charged with being concerned in the ill-treatment of civilian residents in custody at the Happy Valley Gendarmerie and with causing the death of some and physical suffering to others.

Cheung Hoi-ting, telephone operator at St. Paul's French Hospital, gave evidence of having been arrested with Alfred Edward Murphy in December 1944, and taken to the Happy Valley Gendarmerie. Cheung said that on several occasions he heard Murphy's shouts while apparently undergoing a beating.

Early in February, 1945, he was released together with Murphy, who was unable to walk. Two Gendarmes told Murphy to take hold of the middle portion of a bamboo pole with the apparent purpose of dragging him out by this means, but he was unable even to do that. Murphy was then kicked. He was put on a tricycle and brought to the French Hospital.

The final witness called for the prosecution was Capt. F.V. Collinson, of War Crimes Investigation, who produced records confirming sentences passed by War Crimes Courts on two other members of the Eastern Kempetai Headquarters. The Court retired to consider admissibility of this evidence against Capt. Shibata and permitted it as evidence corroborative of witnesses' statements as to their mistreatment by Sgt. Major Matsunobu and Sgt. Miyasue at Eastern Kempetai Headquarters.

The defence opened its case tomorrow morning.

Divorced

Mr. James Joseph Osborne King was granted a decree nisi, to be made absolute in three months, against his wife, Mrs. Joan Alice Mary King, residing at No. 14, Amherst Road, Plymouth, England, by Mr. Justice E.H. Williams, a Polish Judge, at the Supreme Court yesterday.

The petitioner also applied for the custody of the child and damages in the sum of \$50,000, plus costs, against Inspector Wallace Lawrence Kinloch, of the Hong Kong Police, who was cited as co-respondent.

His Lordship awarded damages of \$1,000, plus costs. Mr. Leo d'Almeida e Castro, instructed by Mr. A. Elcarril, appeared for the petitioner. Mr. H.J. Armstrong kept a watching brief on behalf of the respondent and co-respondent.

Wedding

Wilson-Morris

A pretty wedding was solemnized by the Very Rev. Dean Ros at St. John's Cathedral yesterday when Miss Gwendoline Morris, daughter of Mr. R. P. Morris, became the bride of Mr. Edward Wilson, Hong Kong manager of Reuters, and son of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Wilson.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. N. G. Rolph, was attended by the Misses Beryl, Peggy and Joy Morris, sisters of the bride. Mrs. N. G. Rolph was Matron of Honour.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr. C. W. L. Way as best man. The bride looked charming in a dress of white silk with a coronet of orange blossom and a train of tulle veiling, and carried a large bouquet of chrysanthemums. The bridesmaids wore dresses in turquoise and carried bouquets of sweet peas, while the flower girls wore pink lace dresses and carried a bouquet of sweet peas.

At the reception at the Jacobson Hotel, which was attended by a large gathering of friends, the three tiered wedding cake was decorated by a message from Reuters—Lots of love and lots of happiness stop lots of luck stop Reuters.

Among those present at the reception were Mr. and Mrs. Polard, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Lieut. Charles Woods, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Goss, Mr. and Mrs. W. Richardson, Mr. W. J. Ketter, Mr. W. A. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Wynne-Jones, Miss P. E. May, Mr. G. B. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. W. Woodhouse.

CORRUGATED IRON CASE

MANAGING PARTNER SAYS HE ONLY ACTED AS BROKER

Police Farewell Party

Tsimshatui Police Station Canton was the scene of a very pleasant function last night when the Kowloon Police Force gave a farewell party in honour of the D.I.V.P., Mr. Taylor, Inspector Whitcroft and six members of the Shanghai Police Force.

Among those present were Mr. Wilson, S.S.P. Kowloon, Mr. Searle, Mr. Tryer, Mr. Pittendrigh, D.C.I. Whant, A.D.C.I. Mottram, S.I. Dixon (With a fiddle), Inspector N. A. Clarke O.I.C. E.U. Kowloon, and many ladies.

In a short speech, Mr. Wilson said that during the past few months there had been a number of squabbles between the U.K. police, the H.K. Police and the Shanghai Police, but all that is now ended and they are sorry to see them going.

A hard fight had taken place to keep the Shanghai police here, but the local police force has, with the return of some of the old members, become over strength.

Mr. Taylor, in reply, said he was leaving Hong Kong with no regrets, but was leaving the police force with a certain amount of regret as he had several good friends. A voice interjected "God help them".

Mr. Whitcroft also suitably replied.

POLICE DINNER-DANCE

The Hong Kong Police will hold a dinner-dance at the Gloucester Hotel, first floor, on March 1 from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. on March 2.

Tickets at \$10 (\$20 per couple) are obtainable from Inspector Smith at Central Police Station, and Sub-Insps. T. Wheeler at Yau-matui Police Station.

A concert of recorded music will be presented at Talbot House, 50, Macdonnell Road, at 8.30 this evening. The programme will include the following:—Homage March No. 3, Dalcroze (played by Eileen Joyce), Nutcracker Suite and Concerto in D Major for violin and Orchestra by Tchaikovsky.

Readers' Letters

Property

Sir,—First Lux puts forward a suggestion in your paper today for dealing with property damaged. He advocates a levy on undamaged (or slightly damaged) properties which will be applied to compensate owners of damaged properties.

I will give him the following instance. Owner A of a house in Kowloon Tong (which cost him \$15,000 in 1937) had this house damaged and looted badly. As he was able to offer vacant possession, he was able to sell the property for \$70,000, as it stood. Owner B's house (which cost him \$16,000 at approximately the same date as A's) also in Kowloon Tong was undamaged and not vacated by the tenant. He is now unable to sell it (because he cannot offer vacant possession). For more than \$30,000, he cannot evict his tenant and he cannot raise the rent by more than the small amount allowed by law.

The point of this example is clear enough. Owners, who are "being forced to sell" property to wealthy Shanghai people, and invariably that they are being "forced" to sell at a very low profit indeed. While the "fortunate" ones on whom First Lux proposes a levy, also only suffer off to the extent of a slight increase in rental.

UNDAMAGED

That he only acted as a broker for the sale of the 375 pieces of corrugated iron sheets and that the transaction was independent of the Kul Lee Lung firm, of which he was the Managing Partner, was the reason advanced by Lui Kwai for not entering the transaction in the firm's books, when he gave evidence on his own behalf, in the continued hearing of the "Iron Sheet Case" before Mr. W. H. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday.

Lui Kwai, represented by Mr. Marcus da Silva, was charged with receiving 375 corrugated iron sheets on Jan. 11, knowing same to have been stolen or unlawfully obtained.

William Maher, who was also represented by Mr. Silva and who had pleaded guilty on Friday, was charged with the larceny of the sheets.

Corporal Young Hing and Private Li Tak-hung, both of the Hong Kong Chinese Training Coy., were charged with aiding and abetting Maher. Mr. A. J. Clifford, assisted by DSI White, prosecuted. In his evidence-in-chief, Lui stated that he was one of three partners in the Kul Lee Lung firm of 3, Anchor Street, building contractors and dealers in metal and building materials. At about noon on Jan. 10, a broker named Leung Hing called on him and stated that a European had bought a quantity of iron sheets from the auction and wanted to sell them at \$6.90 each.

Witness alleged that he informed the broker that, due to the Chinese New Year, his firm was not on the market but that he himself was prepared to act as a broker provided that the seller was prepared to reduce the price to \$6.50, and to agree to being paid within a week should there be no immediate sale. He said witness was prepared to pay a deposit of \$500 on the deal.

On the departure of Leung, declared Lui, he contacted Lui Kam of the Ki Yuen firm and offered him the goods at \$7.90 each, which price was accepted by Lui who asked for it to be confirmed when Leung's reply was received.

On the following day, continued witness, Leung telephoned to say that his proposals had been accepted by the seller, and Lui, in turn, informed Lui Kam that he was to be paid by the seller. He suggested that in order to save transportation charges, one of his folk would act as a driver when the goods arrive to direct the lorry straight to Lui's buyer. Lui went on to say that he was asked to act as a driver, and that he was doing the business privately, through his firm it would be impossible for him to invoice the sheets. He further informed Lui that a bill would be given by Mr. Ma (Maher), to which Lui stated that as it would be in English it could not accept it. Finally, said Lui, he made out a "common bill", using the firm's debit note, and chopped with the firm's "common chop".

Piece of Paper
As to why no entry was made in the Kul Lee Lung's books, witness stated that the deal was a

PILL BOXES TO GO

Another reminder of the war years will shortly disappear from the Colony—the many pill-boxes which still stand in various parts of the town.

Yesterday's Government Gazette contained a notice calling for tenders for the demolition of 28 pill boxes and similar structures at various sites on the island.

private one and not one in which his firm was interested. He paid the \$500 to Maher from his own pockets, and pocketed the profit himself. In reply to Mr. Clifford, Lui declared that he did not think \$2 was too low, nor \$10.70 too high to pay for the sheets, as the price depended on whether the purchaser wanted the goods urgently or otherwise. He never suspected the sheets to have been stolen as he had been told by Leung that the seller had an "order", although he had never seen it.

Pressed by Mr. Clifford, witness said that when the goods were delivered he was shown a piece of paper with English writing on it. This was the receipt issued by Maher.

Hearing was adjourned to Monday, March 3.

St. Patrick's Day Plans

The recently appointed committee of St. Patrick's Society of Hong Kong is making arrangements for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

At 11 a.m. on March 17, the President of the Society, in the presence of members, will lay a wreath on the Cenotaph. In the evening a dinner will be held at the Roof Garden, Hong Kong Hotel. Members of the Society will shortly receive full details. As, however, the list of members may not be complete, any member who does not receive this information during the next three days is asked to get into touch with the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box No. 616, Hong Kong. Irishmen and women in the Colony who are not members, and who may wish to join the Society, should also communicate with the Secretary.

In pre-war days St. Patrick's Day was an event. This year's function will be on much simpler lines but the Committee feel that this opportunity—the first since the liberation of Hong Kong—of "drawing" together Irish residents in the Colony and their friends, should not be allowed to pass. It has also been decided to subsidise the cost per ticket from the funds of the Society, which were largely built up on profits from pre-war dances. Thus, it is hoped, that the days that are over may contribute to the enjoyment of the present.

CNAC SERVICE

C.N.A.C. traffic into and out of Hong Kong, reduced because of the recent suspension of Chinese air lines, has been picking up following introduction of the four-engine Douglas DC-4's.

C.N.A.C. claims to be the only air line in the Far East using regular D.C.4's with passenger liner accommodation with passenger liner accommodation.

In addition to its new routes to Kunming and Calcutta, C.N.A.C. states that beginning tomorrow its Hong Kong-Shanghai service will be increased to three times a week—Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

MGR. RIBERI DUE TODAY

On an official visit to the Roman Catholic diocese of South China, His Excellency Mgr. Riberi, Apostolic Internuncio to China, is arriving in Hong Kong today in the General Gordon from Shanghai.

Mgr. Riberi will celebrate the Mass at 10 o'clock this morning at St. Mary's Cathedral. Afterwards the officers of Catholic organisations in Hong Kong will be introduced to His Excellency. Later in the week an official public reception will be held at the Catholic Centre, in King's Building.

Drunk, Had Some Fun, Fined

William Joseph Wilmut, 18, seaman of the s/s "Lake Chilli Mack", went out on the night of Feb. 21 with a friend. At about 11:30 p.m. Wilmut could not resist the temptation to have some fun with a motor car parked inside the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf enclosure.

Wilmut (the Police said) kicked in and broke the side window near the driver's seat, after which he and his companion got into the car and released the "brakes". The vehicle went off and ended against a wall, smashing a side lamp.

A watchman who saw this car after the car, whereupon Wilmut got out and, as a final gesture, kicked in another glass panel. The Police were summoned and went on board the ship, when both Wilmut and his companion were identified.

As the other man did not participate in the car-damaging pastime he was left alone by the Police but Wilmut appeared in the docks before Mr. Latimer yesterday morning charged with maliciously damaging two "triplex glass" panels and a side lamp of the car, the property of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Ltd.

Sgt. Askew, who prosecuted, also informed His Worship that the estimated damage was \$200.

After defendant had pleaded that he was drunk and could not remember what had happened, Captain Donald, Master of the "Lake Chilli Mack", told the Court that he could arrange for the defendant to have the money to compensate the owners and to meet whatever fine might be imposed.

"In that case," said His Worship, "I shall impose a small fine of \$50."

TOTED GUN, GETS TWO YEARS

Convicted on the charge of possession of a 38 revolver and five rounds of ammunition, Fok Yin was sentenced to two years hard labour by Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday.

Prosecuting, D.I. Downman said that at 8 p.m. on Feb. 11 a party of Police, under Detective-Sergeant Man Ho, waited for half an hour at the junction of Battery Street and Seagon Road, when four Chinese came up the road. They were stopped and searched and on the defendant was found a fully loaded revolver tied to the trousers' top.

When charged, accused pleaded that he picked up the pistol on the roadway.

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COMMON DEFENCE

Canada and the United States have agreed to continue in time of peace, the close military co-operation which proved its value during the war. The two nations, without entering into a military alliance, of any kind, will pool their military knowledge, share their military facilities and standardise as far as possible their military equipment. The statement of the Canadian Prime Minister, in Ottawa that these arrangements would in no way interfere with, or take the place of, Commonwealth connections in matters of defence, training and organisation may have been necessary to correct erroneous assumptions which might be drawn abroad, but everyone in the Empire will welcome so common-sense a scheme. It will add to the general security of the whole British Commonwealth and is, at the same time, fully in accord with the United Nations Charter, which recognises the principle of collective self-defence and encourages the creation of regional arrangements which are consistent with the United Nations objectives. The discoveries of modern science mean that the men responsible for the defence of the North American Continent now have a new rampart to watch. As well as looking east and west to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, they must look north to the polar regions, which have become the crossroads of the world, the shorter route between America and Europe and Asia, Canada is the outer bulwark of the northern rampart, and its defence and the defence of the United States have become inextricably interwoven. When negotiations for the lease by the United States were in progress during the summer of 1940, Mr. Churchill declared, "These two great organisations of the English-speaking democracies, the British Empire and the United States, they have to be somewhat mixed up together." The United States-Canadian military agreement shows that this principle, like the Mississippi, just keeps rolling along.

SIGNING A
SIGNPOST

With the signing of the five Axis satellite treaties in Paris a long and difficult journey which began at Potsdam 18 months ago reaches its official close. But the celebration of journey's end has only been possible by halting a little short of the final goal. The treaty drafts represent the highest common factor of the Great Powers' peace formulae. They are not the complete solution. The future of the Italian colonies has still to be decided; all the treaty provides is that Italy renounce sovereignty over them. A governor must be appointed for Trieste. The freedom of the Danube must be taken up at a future international conference. If the satellite treaties had been more comprehensive they would still have constituted but the lesser half of the journey to the settlement of post-war Europe. The difficulties and delays encountered will be pure time lost if they do not enable the road to the German peace treaty now being charted by the Foreign Ministers' deputies in London to be travelled more speedily and with less friction on the way. These treaties have virtue mainly in so far as they may represent a better chance of real Russian co-operation in peace-making. During the preliminary discussions on them, and at the Paris Conference, proceedings often bore less relation to the drafting of a treaty between Allies united by victory and a defeated foe than to an effort to see to what extent former enemy States could be included in one Power's sphere or left outside it. In the process allies were denounced as though they were enemies, and enemies praised as though, through some strange reversal of roles they had been allies all the time. Will this chaffing and chaffing spirit change when next month in Moscow the balance wheel, namely the German treaty, without which complete equilibrium cannot be entered, is to be forged?

HONG KONG:— "No Fit
Place For Man Or Beast"

"House rent is exceedingly expensive... when it is necessary to rent a house, of the first class, the rents demanded and paid are enormous. The sound like a description of Hong Kong in the year 1947. Actually, although it is descriptive of this Colony, it is lifted verbatim from a book printed in 1849, by one Henry Charles Sirr, M.A., barrister-at-law, Lincoln's Inn. Mr. Sirr wrote a book entitled "China and the Chinese," the main theme of which was that Hong Kong is no fit place for man nor beast."

Mr. Sirr did not like Hong Kong. Indeed, he goes so far as to say that had he had "but one sincere friend, who would have told us the honest truth."

(By "PAUL PRY")

concerning that charnel-house Hong Kong, not all the wealth of the East would have drawn us thither. But perhaps more interesting to a 1947 reader are his descriptions and comments about the Colony of 100 years ago, and seeing how apposite they are of conditions today.

Not Pleasant

For instance, take this one:—"It is true that the market prices (for vegetables) are published weekly... but we were never able to purchase provisions of the rates dictated, not were we ever encountered, met with, or heard of any individual that had. The compradore, or head servant, whose business it is to secure provisions, invariably affirms that the bazaar people will not sell at the prices we desire, therefore, unless we raise the price demanded or go without, which is not a pleasant alternative after a hard day's work."

And the following might well have come straight from the pen of that indefatigable letter-writer "Fat Justlid" himself:—"...many acts of the Colonial and Home Government... (must appear) to exhibit vacillation and indecision of purpose; and no satisfactory result can occur, either in our diplomatic, political or commercial intercourse with the Chinese, without the exhibition, on our part, of the utmost firmness. Yet in our diplomatic relations, and Colonial Government, we are wholly deficient in this essential characteristic."

Incapacity

When anything goes wrong, it is traditional to blame the "pau" or "pau" as the cause. When Mr. Sirr wrote that "much dissatisfaction is naturally engendered in the breasts of a community by unfilled men being placed in high and responsible positions, and whose disagreeable conduct and incapacity for such offices are made manifest without restraint when at a distance from the wholesome check imposed by the home authorities."

The following sounds like a very good description of a senior

The
Underground
In Spain

By

CARL HARTMAN

After more than 10 years in which Generalissimo Francisco Franco's Government has punished political opposition as "military rebellion," the clandestine underground forces continue to fight against his rule, in a conspiratorial atmosphere of false hopes, hidden subterfuges and sudden police raids. An outline of how one clandestine group operates is shown by a copy of a letter from the "Union de Intelectuales Libres—U.I.L." to Jose Giral, Prime Minister of the Republican Government in Exile.

This document has by now undoubtedly reached the hands of the Franco authorities.

The U.I.L. claims to be an all-party anti-Franco group, and although its literature closely follows the Communist line, diplomats who have met some of its representatives say it contains spokesmen of other parties, too. The letter to Giral explains:

"Our organisation adopts, in general terms, the following system. Each section covers a university district (Spain has 12 universities) and is led by a superior council. Under its direction are local councils in those provincial capitals whose importance requires them. This level below the superior council is a chairman and secretary. The group is divided into sub-groups which contact the chairman or secretary through their chiefs."

Close Watch

"Maximum rigour is practised in the use of pseudonyms and such indispensable measures of security as the avoidance of large meetings and extensive acquaintanceships not required by the activities of the organisation. No regular afternoon meetings in cafes, no personal acquaintances and no sporadic jumping from level to level. Everything is completely arranged down to details by every member of fundamental problems, with constant use of the right of criticism by all members. Within the measures of security required by clandestine activity, the Democratic system is applied to the group."

The organisation claims to have enrolled 2,000 active members in its two years of work. Its purpose is to unite "all Spaniards in the intellectual professions" who want to overthrow Franco and restore the Republic.

Government servant today, whose bluntness had best be preserved with his anonymity. There is a member of the Colonial Government who in the general estimation of the Colonists is one of the few in authority perfectly qualified in every respect to govern, command and enforce respect, possessing extreme decency of manner and hospitality of disposition, which has obtained for him the universal esteem of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Wonder how many senior Govt. servants will try to wear that cap!

Faint Prospects

Finally, a description of the war-rich profiteers who seem to be arriving by the shipload, or plane-load, these days:—"The lowest dregs of Native Society flock to the British Settlement in the hope of gain of plunder... there are but faint prospects of any other than a migratory or predatory race being attracted to Hong Kong when, when their hopes of gain or pilfering vanish, without hesitation or difficulty remove elsewhere."

As some old Frenchman once put it in "Time-worthily language," plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!

Shantung: Another Angle
Of The Civil War

After 14 months of UNRRA relief work in China, people of Communist-held southern Shantung are so abysmally lacking in medical supplies, surgical instruments and hospitals that grave malaria epidemics that sweep the region often wipe out whole villages. Patients have to drag their own beds to the medical wards. And there is only one pair of obstetrical forceps for 15,000-200 persons.

This is the story brought to Shanghai from the Linyi area from which UNRRA and CNRRA personnel were evacuated when their lives were endangered by frequent Nationalist air raids, including an attempt on February 6 to bomb an LST carrying medical supplies to the area.

The bombing and strafing raids, the evacuation of civilians, civilian traffic on roads and "anything conspicuous"—including civilian hospitals—as far as 100 miles from the front.

Their accounts told the story of the human misery behind the statistics that less than two per cent of all UNRRA supplies reaching China have been permitted to reach Communist territory. Most of that two per cent they said, was food which is critically needed in a virtually self-sufficient region.

Malaria

They told of an "astonishing" epidemic of malaria. For example, half the people of one village of 300 persons died. Of the remaining 100 people, only eight survived. It became a ghost village in the ruins of the ruins. In large with weeds growing about the high in the streets and wolves playing in the ruins.

Also prevalent, they said, is kala-azar of which there are over 400,000 cases. One small area had 8,000 lepers. Another village was completely leprosy.

Hospitals and medical wards are "woefully inadequate" cope with this suffering. UNRRA officers told of hospitals with 10 beds for 50 or 60 patients. Until Madame Sun Yat-sen's China Welfare Fund brought in some equipment there were two patients in the whole area with surgical instruments. Even the most basic necessities needed items for operation purposes.

Microscopes are few. The region is "begging for medical books." Most hospitals have no thermometers or scalpels. One hospital had a single old scalpel which the Japanese left behind. He had sharpened it so often it had become practically useless.

Against the government, the Communist Party especially urges help to the guerrillas and the formation of a "national resistance council" to direct their operations.

Perez' Gestapo

In the Barcelona area, police recently arrested at least 70 alleged members of the "Agrupacion de Fuerzas Armadas de la Republica Española" (grouping of armed forces of the Spanish Republic) usually known from its initials as "AFARE." In Terragona a cache of arms, ammunition and dynamite was confiscated.

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"This barometer must be out of whack! It says 'fair,' but your game leg hurts and I'm having the car washed today!"

"And I've got cases waiting until I have a knife to operate with," he said.

In the face of these conditions, the evacuees reported, the Communist areas of Shantung, which contain 20 per cent of the province's population of 40,000,000, received 18 per cent of the UNRRA medical supplies sent to Shantung. The rest went to the Nationalist five-per cent of the population. Up to December 4, less than 100 tons reached the area.

With the most primitive instruments, Communist doctors and nurses are doing "wonderful work," they continued. They get some drugs from blockade runners—sometimes from Tientsin and sometimes along the coast from Shanghai. There is tremendous earnestness regarding the welfare of the people, they reported. For instance, 120 nurses walked three and a half weeks from Chefoo and Weihaiwei, crossing the Nationalist lines, to get to the Linyi Peace Hospital.

What little effective medical assistance there is, however, is complicated by the hospitals' forced evacuation to inconspicuous mountain villages. "Everything conspicuous" is made the target of bombs. The planes—American-made—come over frequently, bombing and strafing market places. Sometimes they attack the chronic attacks to take food to market every fifth day, the evacuees said.

"Supplies" UNRRA officers said they often saw victims brought in. Some times the attacks took place so near they could hear the bombs exploding. One hospital had 15,000,000 people in the vicinity.

The bombings were presumably meant to dislocate the economic life of the region and stop volunteers from moving up to join the Eighth Route Army. Day travel has been prohibited by the Communist authorities since October, and the UNRRA and CNRRA field workers did all their traveling by night.

It was last winter that the people of Communist Shantung first heard they would get UNRRA supplies. The evacuees continued: "The American 'supplies' they have seen mostly so far, the actual goods suggest, have been captured American-made military equipment. The evacuees said they saw American engines, tanks, trucks, howitzers and jeeps. The Communists told them the tanks were being driven by Nationalist prisoners who decided they would rather fight for the Communists." —United Press.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

AVOIDING A MINOR
SUIT

When your partner has indicated a pretty good hand by his bidding, but also a mist as to suit length, you are pretty likely to have a hard time in minor suit take 11 tricks. A minor suit is likely to prefer his game try in N. Trumps, with full knowledge that he requires some kind of luck along the line, but probably not as much luck, as taking two more tricks at a suit would require.

S. A. None
H. A. 2 8 7 5
D. Q 7
C. A Q 5 4 3 2

Q 6 5
A 2
K 4
J 9 8
D. A K 5 4
J 9 8

S. A K 10 9 8 3
H. K
D. J 3 2
C. 7 6

(Dealer: East, Both sides vulnerable.)
East South West North
1. Pass 1. Pass 2. C
Pass 2. B Pass 3. H
Pass 3. S Pass 4. H
Pass 5. C Pass 5. C
2. Pass 1. S Pass 2. C
Pass 2. S Pass 2. H

Notice how South's bidding at Table 1 on this duplicate deal causes North to show his extra distribution. He has hearts because he could not bid them and six clubs because he showed them. He has a long spade suit because he has a long spade suit. He has a long heart suit because he has a long heart suit.

(Dealer: North, Neither side vulnerable.)
East South West North
1. Pass 1. Pass 2. C
Pass 2. B Pass 3. H
Pass 3. S Pass 4. H
Pass 5. C Pass 5. C
2. Pass 1. S Pass 2. C
Pass 2. S Pass 2. H

his reverse bid of the higher ranking hearts secondarily at the level of three. The 4-Heart bid gave South a tough decision: should he leave it in a ten-trick contract, or a slightly inadequate trump holding, or go one higher into a suit with eight tricks? Whichever he did, North was sure to get set.

At Table 2, South took a chance on North having a diamond as good as the 4 or better, and he then might be able to run nine tricks. He could not quite do that, but after West led the diamond 4, clearly a fourth-best, South saw the light. He in another way. Holding the 3 and 2, himself, he read that as only a four-card suit. He got the first trick with the J, took two high spades and gave up another. The defense then scored three diamonds, but the club return was won with the A and the rest of the tricks run to make game.

Tomorrow's Problem
S. Q 4
H. A 7
D. 10 8 3 2
C. A K 5 3 2

S. J 6 3
H. 10 8 6 4
D. J 9 8 5
C. 7

S. 8 7 5
H. K Q J 10
D. 10 9 8 7
C. 6 4

(Dealer: North, Neither side vulnerable.)
East South West North
1. Pass 1. Pass 2. C
Pass 2. B Pass 3. H
Pass 3. S Pass 4. H
Pass 5. C Pass 5. C
2. Pass 1. S Pass 2. C
Pass 2. S Pass 2. H

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THE WEATHER'S WORST Snow Again Isolates Northern Towns

His Face Drove Him To Crime

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Feb. 22.
A boy who was driven to crime because he "looked like an ape" is ready to face life anew following a plastic sur-
operation here.

He is 16-year-old David Ruge, who was born with facial muscles and bones that gave him a "perpetual scowl" of a particularly ferocious nature.

Schoolmates called him "the Ape Boy" or "Monkey Face." Soon after he went to work Ruge sent his employer an extortion note demanding \$1,250. He told a magistrate he wanted the money to finance a facial operation.

His plea won the Court's lenience and he was placed on probation. Numerous offers of financial help followed, and an Ohio industrialist promised to pay for the operation.

But Dr. Ferris Smith, a prominent plastic surgeon, performed it without charge. He said today: "I am very pleased up to date." Ruge, he declared, was delighted every time he saw his face in a mirror.

Heavy Snowstorms Hit America

London, Feb. 21.
Heavy snowfalls were reported today from Belgrade as far as to western Canada as the worst blizzards and gales in a winter of record severity lashed the British Isles, stopping buses and planes, delaying trains, blocking roads and cutting off villages. The heaviest snowstorm to hit the United States eastern seaboard in recent years caused the death of at least 31 persons, forced the closing of many schools and disrupted industry.

Switzerland, parts of Germany and France were tonight told to expect a heavy snowfall with the danger of avalanches in the Alps. Here is a world picture of the weather tonight:

Dover-Fog horns on Britain's south coast blew without a break today to warn shipping in a blinding snowstorm as a northerly gale whipped the seas. Shipping in the Channel is being told by radio that navigational lights buoys are not working, or have been dragged from their positions by ice-floes, upsetting the marked routes between British and Continental ports and leaving sunken wrecks and unswept minefields.

Snow In Cornwall
Falmouth, Cornwall—This southwestern port, which had not known snowfall for 55 years, was snow-bound today for the second time this winter.

Leeds—A 12-hour snowfall has covered Yorkshire, isolating many villages and covering sheep with a deep drift.

New York—The heaviest snowfall of the season has grounded aircraft and delayed trains along

PHOTOGRAPHY MADE SIMPLE

New York, Feb. 22.
A new kind of camera that delivers a completed photograph in one minute by the turn of a knob, was announced to the Optical Society of America, by Mr. Edwin H. Land, world famous discoverer of polaroid.

The camera can be carried by anyone. The picture that emerges is full finished and of the same quality as photographs developed and printed by dark room processes.—Associated Press.

Grain Lost

The Automobile Association said weather throughout England was the worst of the worst winter in 50 years. Powdery snow driven by a 30 mph wind piled drifts six feet deep in places.

Hundreds of sheep were buried under the snow or suffered from snowblindness and had to be destroyed. Unthreshed stacks of wheat were attacked by flocks of ravenous crows and farmers saw their feeding grain rendered worthless before their eyes.

In Bromley, the County Judge, Sir Gerald Hurst, told Court lawyers they could wear overcoats since "we must abandon some formality in these times." A lawyer, Mr. F.R. Lawrence, replied: "Thanks, Your Honour, I have already taken underground precautions."

The blizzard was caused by a depression area which moved north to Devon and then east to London. The weather forecast was: "The snow will continue."

—United Press.

Snow In U.S.

New York, Feb. 21.
Plane schedules have been cancelled and trains delayed along the whole Atlantic seaboard from Washington to Maine by the heaviest snowfall of the season.

The fall was unusually heavy in Washington, where street traffic in the early part of today was almost at a standstill. In New York city, the fall had reached seven inches by early morning and was expected to continue for several hours more. Highway traffic was tied up and many schools declared a holiday.—Reuter.

U.N. Held Up

Lake Success, N.Y. Feb. 21.
A snow storm caused postponement of the Security Council session, which was to have started this afternoon, until Monday night. A snowstorm prevented the arrival of the delegates.

The meeting was to have discussed Britain's charge against Albania of mine-laying in the Corfu Channel.—Reuter.

Jervis Bay Heroes Toast The King

London, Feb. 22.
There was a breath of the salt sea in the dining room of a London railway terminus last night when 21 survivors of the Jervis Bay rose to toast the King.

And at that moment, remembering the grey wastes of the North Atlantic on the November eve when the Jervis Bay fought her epic action, the thoughts and wishes of these seamen were with the Sovereign in South Africa. But this has been a memorable night, commemorating a night that will live for ever in the sea story of Britain.

Died Together

At the table, as in the ship, the Merchant Navy and the Royal Navy are banded in comradeship. They fought together, died together, and now those who remain dine together.

You may not remember—but we must always remember. It was November 5, 1940—Guy Fawkes. I never saw such a bonfire says Fred Billings.

A total of 298 men died, and

those who lived have little memory of how they lived. The boats were gone. The survivors clung to rafts and logs of wood and few remember how the Swedish ship, the Sturholm, turning back from the convoy, picked them up.

Russia Promises To Examine

Washington, Feb. 21.
The Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Molotov, has assured General W. Bedell-Smith, United States Ambassador to Moscow, that Russia will examine the question of reaching settlement of her \$11,000,000,000 Lend-Lease account with the United States, a State Department spokesman said today.

He said the United States had hitherto received no response to three notes addressed to the USSR on the subject in September, October and December last, asking for the opening of negotiations.

General Bedell-Smith also had received no reply hitherto to three personal approaches he made to the Soviet Foreign Office.

All other countries which had received Lend-Lease aid during the war had either reached or were negotiating settlement with the United States.

The spokesman emphasised that the promise given by M. Molotov did not necessarily mean that Russia had promised to return the Lend-Lease material in accordance with the terms of their Lend-Lease agreement with the United States.—Reuter.

Seamen Walk Off Freighter

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.
The United States Immigration Service is investigating the disappearance of 12 Chinese seamen from the British freighter "Empire Magpie" while in port here.

Officials said that 12 Chinese leaving one ship is an unusual large number and an inquiry was launched to determine if there was any collusion.

The Empire Magpie arrived Jan. 16 with a full 40-man Chinese crew of whom 12 disappeared while the ship was undergoing repairs. She is unable to sail short-handed and Chinese to replace them are unavailable.

A full British crew was recruited—some coming all the way from Liverpool. The remaining Chinese were sent to the west coast to join a ship sailing there for the Far East.—Associated Press.

FRANCO-SPANISH FRONTIER

Paris, Feb. 21.
The Foreign Office spokesman said here today that negotiations to re-open the Franco-Spanish border closed since Feb. 28, 1946, are not under way between the French and Spanish Governments.

A limited agreement was reached today to allow 28 French railway waggons trapped in Spain by the closing of the border to return to France, but the spokesman said that this had no political implications and did not signify any French move to reopen the frontier.—Reuter.

Briton Who Served In German Army

Venice, Feb. 21.
Colonel Alexander Patterson-Scotland, the British Intelligence Corps officer who startled the military court trying ex-Field Marshal Kesselring by disclosing on Wednesday that he had served in the German Army, gave new evidence today.

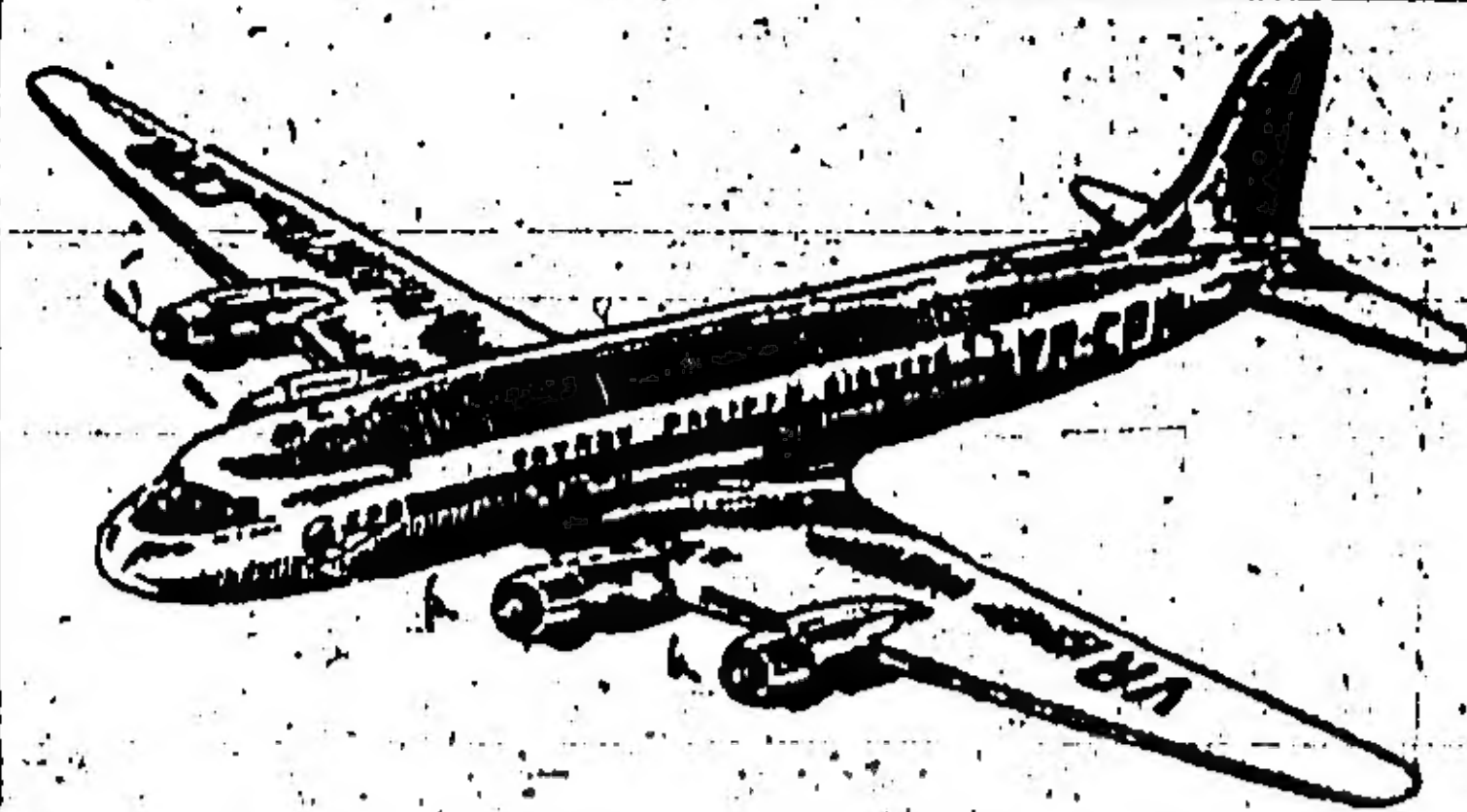
But today the colonel made no reference to his "Wehrmacht" experience.

He told the court of documents on which he interrogated Kesselring in London last October. These outlined the measures which Kesselring ordered in the fight against Italian partisans including those willing to work for the Todt Labour Organisation or willing to join Mussolini's "neo-Fascist" Army.

More of these documents will be put in by the prosecution tomorrow morning for a half-day session.

Gerald Keller, former legal adviser to the German armed forces in Italy, told the court today that Kesselring's conduct of the war was "chivalrous."

"Any violation of the laws and usages of war made Kesselring thoroughly angry," Keller added that Kesselring, though he reserved to himself the right to confirm the death sentence in Italy, was not the only authority in Rome on March 28, 1944. Death sentences, then, could also be confirmed by an emergency court martial which could legally decide whether the sentence should be carried out at once without further confirmation.—Reuter.



It cost LESS today to FLY-CPA.

BANGKOK	Leaving Tuesday, 25th Feb.	Fare \$628.
SINGAPORE	Leaving Friday, 28th Feb.	Fare \$880.
MANILA	Leaving Wednesday, 26th Feb.	Fare \$600.
SYDNEY	Leaving Tuesday, 25th Feb.	Fare \$2,200.

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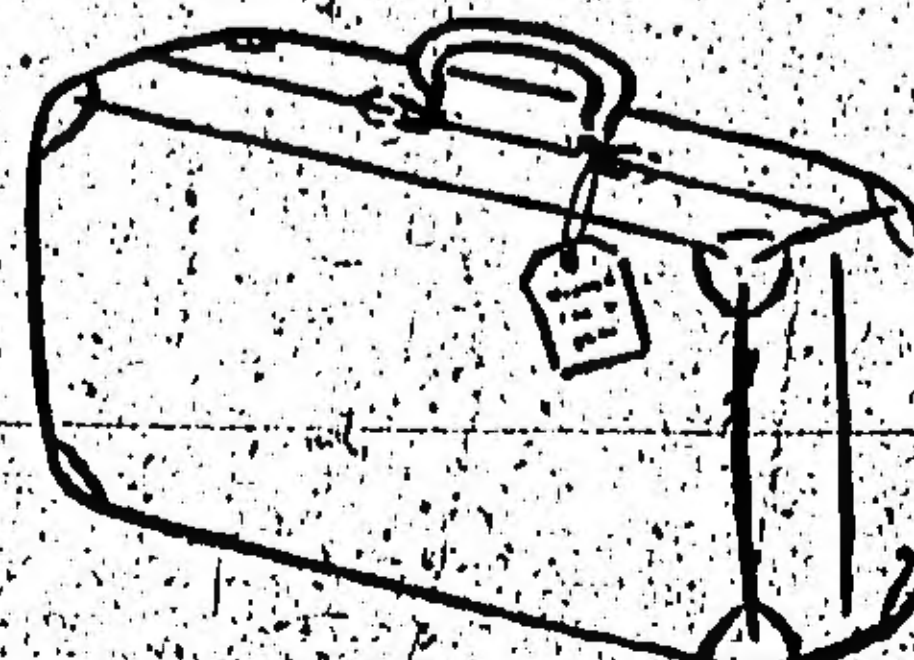
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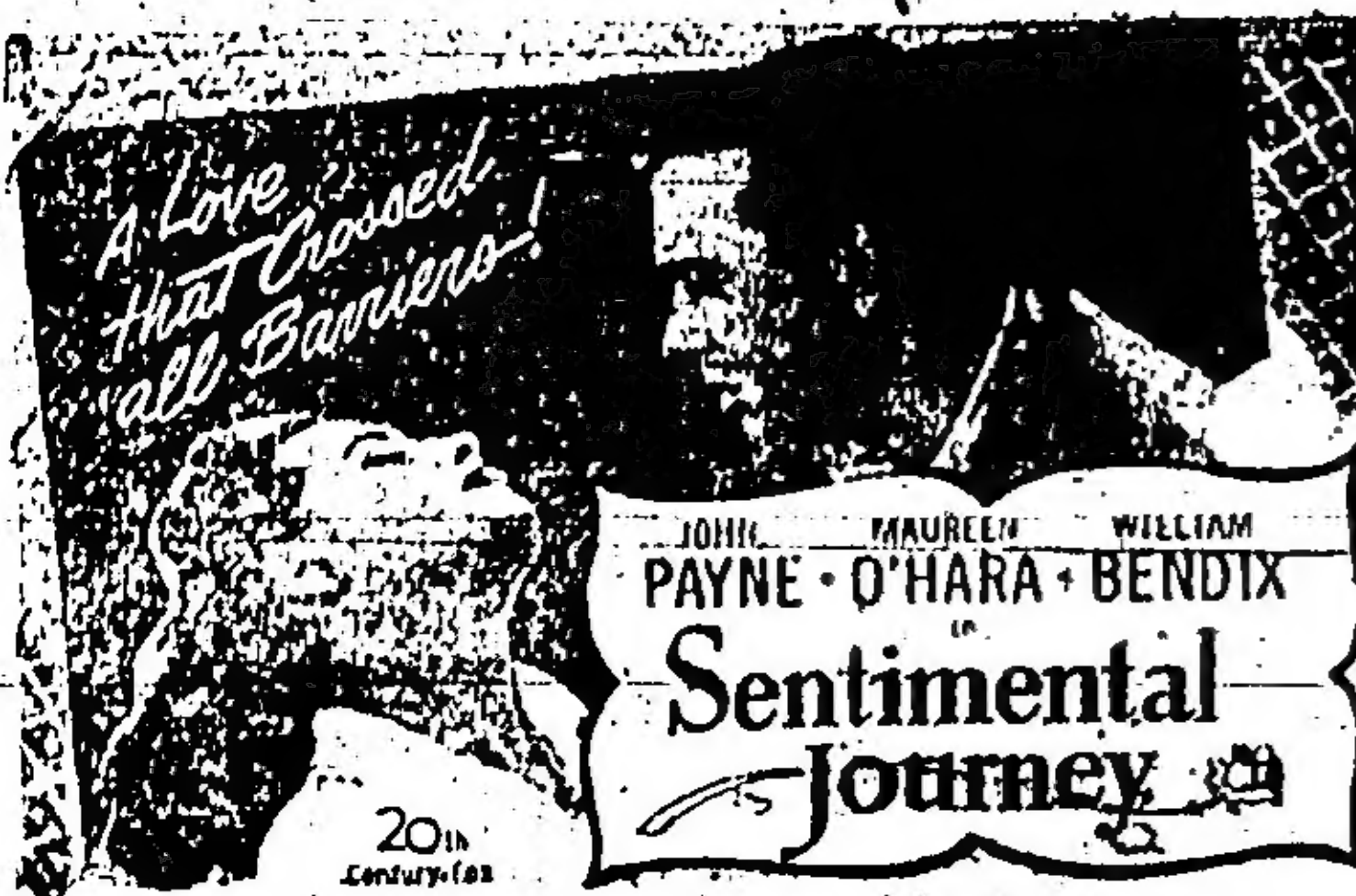
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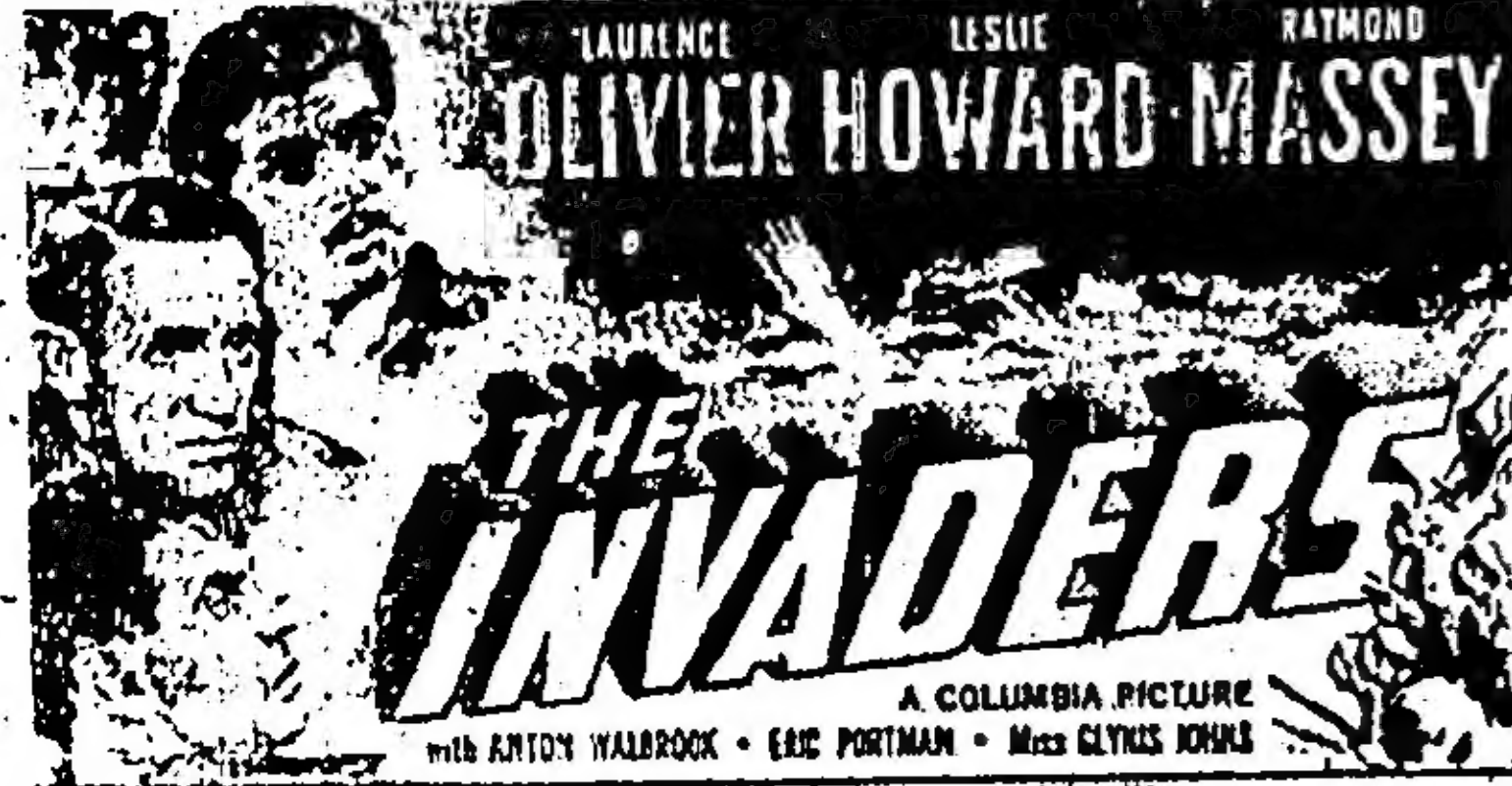
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WATCH FOR OPENING DATES

FORGERS SET UP SHOP IN TRAITORS' PRISON

Paris, Feb. 21.

The French National Police today revealed a discovery inside the collaborators' prison at Fresnes, near Paris, of a regular forgers' den and organisation for getting forged Gestapo documents into the hands of foreign Governments to mislead them about French political and resistance leaders.

Following a raid on the prison 19 prisoners, including 14 Frenchmen who worked for the German military intelligence, and five German intelligence officers, have been charged with being involved in a vast political forgery plot.

Five other persons have been named in the Paris area. Some prison visitors and lawyers of the detained men are said to be involved.

French secret services surrounded the prison raid. Seventy police inspectors taking part were warned only one hour ahead of their assignment. They left Paris at midnight in 16 police cars, travelling 800 yards apart.

The prison governor at first thought that it was an attempt to storm the prison by friends of the prisoners. He urgently called for help from the Paris municipal police, who sent some men who narrowly escaped a shooting match with the National Police.

Discrediting The Republic

The prison was surrounded, all telephone lines connecting the prison with the outside world cut and the 70 inmates who had a list of suspects divided into 24 cells. There they discovered a number of incriminating documents and removed thirty of the men detained at Fresnes to Paris for questioning.

Of these 19 were finally held on new charges of being in possession of documents supplied by a foreign power (Germany) and of forging documents likely to endanger internal security.

The Ministry of the Interior today said that German agents interned at Fresnes had attempted to contact their leaders still at liberty abroad.

In an attempt to discredit the Republic these agents had tried to supply them with documents supposed to have been found in German archives and intended to discredit certain French politicians.

According to the police these political leaders included M.

Georges Bidault, French Foreign Minister, who was chairman of the National Council of Resistance during the latter part of the German occupation, and M. Felix Gaus, former Premier.

The police added that they had evidence that some of these forged documents reached the British and the United States embassies and consulates in Paris.

Of the five arrested outside the prison, two were Frenchmen, described as having acted as transmission agents for the plotters.

A police statement said that the plotters confessed when faced with overwhelming evidence of their deeds. Sources close to the Ministry of Justice suggested that the main purpose of the plotters seemed to have been to produce evidence likely to be useful at the men's trial.

According to the police the plotters leader supplied the ideas based on his knowledge of French political life, while one of the Germans concerned, a former Gestapo chief, made drafts in an official German and outside help to put these into the official German style and typed.

The typewritten were then smuggled back to Fresnes prison, where a Belgian answer added rubber stamps which he made to give the documents an air of authenticity.

The brains

Finally, the documents were once again smuggled out of prison and agents tried to find them foreign powers to supply them with documents supposed to have been found in German archives and intended to discredit certain French politicians.

The Interior Ministry described the brains of the organisation as Captain Jean Cavallier, working with the former Gestapo chief.

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"UNDERGROUND"

No Place For Red In A.E.C.

London, Feb. 21.

The War Secretary, Mr. Frederick Bellenger, stood firm today on his Department's refusal to permit a Communist to serve in the Army Educational Corps but he said he had no objection to "using him in a different capacity."

Mr. Charles Smith (Labour) brought up the case of an unnamed Army private, who, Smith said, was refused a transfer to the Educational Corps because of political discrimination.

Captain G.R. Chetwynd (Labour), who served in the Army's Educational Corps, said, "This man might have an undesirable influence" on army men.

Mr. Bellenger explained that recruits for the Educational Corps should be "suitable to teach the form we want, them to. That form is the British way and purpose."—United Press.

A Torrent of Emotions

From the Best-seller

By Stefan Zweig.

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NEXT CHANGE

AT THE

KING'S

MORE TROUBLE FOR BRITAIN?

Montreal, Feb. 21.

Unless a new railway system is available all grain shipments to Britain will be cut off within a few days, grain officials said here today.

The situation is so critical at the ports that there is hardly enough grain to fill one ship. Halifax has only 200,000 bushels of grain and two ships are available. The average tramp steamer carries between 300,000 and 600,000 bushels.

Shipping officials predict serious competition in Vancouver, where 15 ships are due next week. No grain awaits them.—Reuter.

Walter Klein, who occupied a

all below him.

Klein was one of the chiefs of the German Gestapo in Paris during the war. He returned secretly to France after the German surrender in May, 1945, and was discovered and arrested.

The Belgian collaborator who took an active part in the preparation of the forged documents was named as Van De Weide.—Reuter.

New Challenge To Britain

London, Feb. 21.

Early press reaction to the economic White Paper was mixed. The Liberal "Star" said the White Paper at least showed that Britain made a tremendous achievement in the first 18 months after the war and predicted that the new challenge would be met "with energy."

Lord Beaverbrook's "Evening Standard" took the Government to task for not promising the people more if they made the required effort.

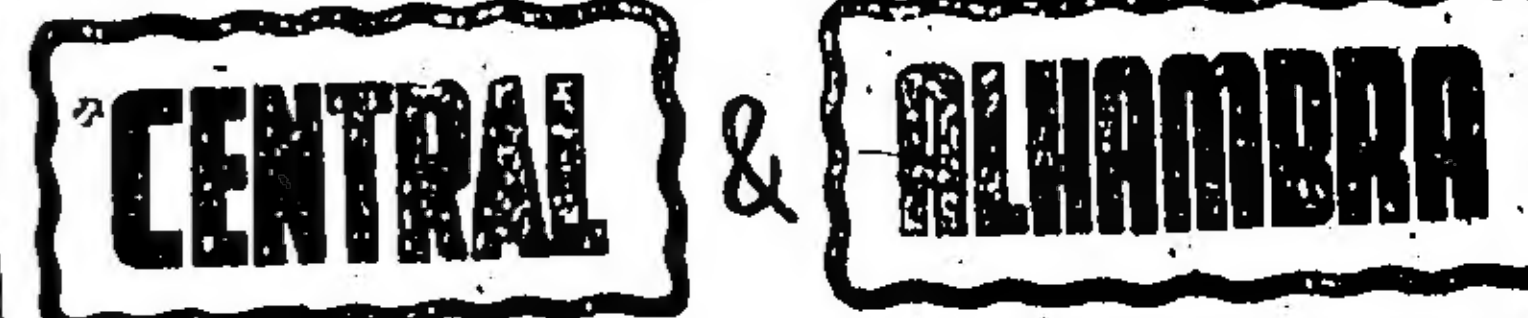
Mr. Attlee, the newspaper said, "offers the British people toll, tears and sweat." The editorial added "blood alone they are spared in these plucking days of peace. If the people are to answer this call to further sacrifice, they may fairly demand a more decisive and more inspiring lead than this."

Unofficial European reaction to the White Paper likewise was gloom, particularly to the action that suggested that Britain could export no coal to the Continent for two or three years at least.—Associated Press.

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Amber, Countess of Radclyffe, chatelaine of Lime Park with an elderly, devoted husband whom she loathed, was bored.

Philip, her stepson, was the only young and personable and virile male in the place. She craved excitement as well as the flattery of a man's adoration. So, despite the jealous surveillance which Radclyffe exercised at every moment, she set about at-

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tracting the youth. They rode together. They walked in the grounds. And then one day by the stream where Amber sat down and indicated a place beside her, Philip told her: "It doesn't seem as though you're my stepmother. I can't make myself believe it. I wonder why?" "Perhaps," suggested Amber lazily, "you don't want to."

He asked her why she had married his father and Amber told him. "He wanted my money," she said. "Presently he started to get to his feet. 'I should never have come today,' he said. Amber reached out and caught at his wrist, drawing him gently toward her. 'Why should you keep away from me, Philip?' she murmured. 'This rain through the leaves made a spatter of light and dark on her face and throat. Her lips were moist and her teeth shone white. Her speckled amber eyes held his insistently. 'Philip, what are you afraid of? You want to kiss me—why don't you?'"

Philip tried to avoid her for a time. But one day at last Amber met him face to face in the garden. She called him. "What do you mean running away from me like that? Didn't you enjoy yourself? You seemed to—last time." Philip was in agony. "Don't! I can't stand it. I'm going out of my head. I've committed a crime." "What?" cried Amber. "Adultery's no crime. It's an amusement. Forget it." But she did nothing to help him forget. By the end of a fortnight he was completely helpless. And daily the mutual hate that was between Amber and her husband deepened till he came to tell her he was going to London—alone. Amber stammered and raved because he would not let her go too. She looked herself in her room, smashed everything she could lay her hands on. A maid brought food to her, cold fowl. Amber flung it across the room and crashed the dishes on the floor. There was quiet for a time. Then a scream and a pounding at the door. It was Jennifer, Philip's wife. "It's Philip. He's dying."

Amber rushed to Philip's apartment. He lay writhing and contorted. "I've been poisoned," he told her. "And on a sudden Amber knew that Radclyffe had meant to kill them both. She had been saved because of having thrown away the dinner of which Philip had partaken. Her suspicion became certainty when Philip said as he died: 'The summer-house, where they had met often, there's a hollowed eye in that stone mask on the wall.' Amber decided to flee. She did not know but what Radclyffe would return, find her still alive, and kill her then. So for Lon-

don on horseback she set off with John and four husky footmen. It was at Oxford that they learned that London was on fire, and as they neared, its western parts, while yet miles off, they saw the great moving pall of smoke, and little charred fragments of paper and linen and plaster drifted down upon them. Finally Amber and her five men had to abandon their horses and continue on foot. Her head swam with fatigue after thirteen hours riding. She longed to drop and stay. But nothing mattered now but to find Radclyffe. To have her revenge. And she wanted to rescue her money from Shadrach Newbold before the Great Fire got it.

At last they came to Radclyffe House near St. Martin's Grand. Amber's exhaustion was miraculously gone. She told Big John to wait while she went to his Lordship's apartments where she found Radclyffe going hastily through drawers and stuffing his pockets with papers.

He took her for a boy in her riding-suit. "Is it you?" he asked at last very softly. "Yes, and alive—no ghost, my lord. Philip is dead—but I'm not." He smiled reflectively, cold, contemptuous, strangely sensual. "Yes, I remember you together. In the summer-house thirteen times in all. What you did and I listened to what you said."

"Did you?" snapped Amber. "But I didn't die—and I'm not going to either." Her eyes flared. She raised her whip and lashed him across the face with her force. Again and again till he lunged at her with a candlestick and she screamed. As Radclyffe seized her Big John's cudgel came down on his skull. Radclyffe began to double. Amber watched the whip again and lashed at his face over and over. "Kill him! Kill him!" And Big John's cudgel fell again smashing Radclyffe's skull. They rushed from the house and the fire made a funeral pyre for the Earl of Radclyffe.

Amber found—after having gone back to Lime Park for three and a half months—on her return to London that Shadrach Newbold had saved every penny of his possessions from the fire. There after Radclyffe's intrusions on her fortune. But she had twenty-eight thousand pounds and even that was enough to make her one of the richest women in England. It was being added to by interest

and she could augment it by renting Lime Park.

She met Almsbury one day. He teased her. "Who d'ye suppose you'll marry next. I was wondering—how d'you think you'll look in thirty-five?" Amber looked white and shocked. But only at part of his question. "Thirty-five? My God, I'll never be thirty-five!" she thought.

Her appearance at Whitehall created a greater sensation than she had hoped. Because of her marriage she had access to the Court and the Drawing-Room. He mentioned to her Gerald Stanhope. Stanhope, Amber was horrified. But the former favourite had now fallen so far and Amber had risen so high that for the time being she could afford to sink her hand in his.

It was Charles who, when Amber told him she was to bear him a child, suggested she should remain in the country. He mentioned to her Gerald Stanhope. Stanhope, Amber was horrified. But the former favourite had now fallen so far and Amber had risen so high that for the time being she could afford to sink her hand in his.

Amber went to live at Almsbury House. For she hoped to be given soon an appointment at Court and to live there. As for her husband, she looked on him as a dead man. He was a shadow in truth, and she knew him. It was nearly midnight one night when she returned from Whitehall, tired and eager to get to bed. Almsbury was on the stairs. "I've got a surprise for you," he said. "Guess who's here."

She looked over her shoulder at the doorway where a tall dark-haired man smiled at her. Amber caught her breath. "Bruce?" She saw him start toward her running and then Almsbury's arms went about her as she fainted. "How fine you're looking," she whispered. "Handsome as ever." Their eyes met. "Amber." "Yes?" Their mouths came together with sudden devouring violence. When the storm was spent he looked at her with a lazy, half-amused smile. "I understand you're a countess now. And married again too."

"Oh darling," she said, "we could have had such a happy life together if only you..." And then she saw the changing expression on his face. It warned her. "The dread she had up to a deep breath. 'Yes, I'm married.' 'Do you love her?' she asked. Softly he said: 'Yes, I love her.' 'Damn you Bruce Carlton!' muttered Amber flouncing off. 'If only you should you be the only man in England to marry for love?'"

But day and night, they were together again. So soon as Bruce was gone in the morning, Amber would sip her chocolate and go to see the children. And she spent her days receiving tradesmen and buying rich scents and lengths of silks and jewellery. She found that her mother-in-law, Lady Stanhope, was living on the credit Amber had with the tradespeople. And her husband was living on her money too.

So, one evening, she gave him a conge to him at her door and admitted Bruce. As he put his lips to her neck, he thrilled. "Oh, Bruce—how I love you." His arms went around her and they stood close together. When he took his mouth from hers she found him staring across the room. There was Gerald, her husband standing just inside the door, his face white and his jaw fallen.

Amber's eyes blazed with sudden fury. "What d'you mean—sneaking in here like this. Spying on me. You damned impudent dog." She hurled a silver patch-box at him. He was all but staggering. "For God's sake, Madame—I had no idea—I didn't know."

And he took his leave by the back staircase like a leech, with never a thought of challenging Bruce to a duel. It was the end to all relation, even outwardly between Amber and her husband and mother-in-law.

London was hysterical like a girl. National debt never was greater. War was now unpopular. Government finances were at low ebb. And there came news that the Dutch were out with twenty-four ships along the coast.

Amber recked nothing of all this. She had one interest and only one: Lord Carlton. Till one day came the cry: "The Dutch have landed. They've taken Sheerness." And Bruce went off with Almsbury to help to stem an invasion. When he returned some days later he was bearded and sunburnt, and there was a blood-soaked bandage on his arm. But she had him back with her again. For a little while. And now he must be off back to America. They had talked of his taking little Bruce, their first-born, there was much argument and they asked the boy himself who was now six years old. He said he would like to go with his father.

So it came about one day that Amber, her heart very full, stood on a hill watching Carlton's ship begin to move away. The sails snapping out white and full in the wind. And on the deck, Carlton and their son Bruce waved a good-bye salute to Amber who stood, lost and forlorn, and gave them one spiritless little wave.

Her lover and her son had been gone a month when Amber was appointed a Lady of the Bedchamber and moved into apartments at Whitehall.

The suite consisted of twelve rooms, six on a floor strung along the river front and adjoining the King's apartments, to which it had access by means of a narrow passage and staircase opening from an alcove in the drawing-room. And will you look at me now, thought Amber, she surveyed her new surroundings. "What a long way I've come," she wondered with amusement what Aunt Sarah and Uncle Matt and her seven cousins would think if they could see her—titled, with a coach and eight, satin and velvet gowns by the score, camels to rival Castlemaine's pearls, bowed to by lords and ladies. There her son had been born and as Charles came in softly to see this latest addition to his numerous family he smiled: "God-fish! I wear the little devil looks like me." The baby was christened and Charles acted as godfather. By now, he had broken openly with Castlemaine who had taken to intriguing with the wily George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.

THE BOOK EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT

Amber's nearest rival, indeed her only one then, was a young girl who lived at the top of Maypole Alley, a narrow street off Drury Lane. Her name was Nell Gwynne. And Charles had seen her at the theatre and had sent for her.

Meanwhile Amber loved being part of the Court. She spent money as if she had inherited the Privy Purse. The fortune which Samuel had left her seemed to her inexhaustible. And anyway, there were a thousand ways to make money at Court—is the King liked you. Once he allowed her to hold a lottery of Crown plate. He leased her 600 acres of Crown land in Lincolnshire for five years at a low figure and she subleased it at a high one. He granted her the profits for a one-year period from all vessels moored in the Pool. She got the money from the sale of underwood in certain coppices in the New Forest. She engaged in two of the Court's most lucrative businesses: begging estates and stock-jobbing. Charles gave her gifts from the Irish taxes and all the foreign ambassadors made her presents which varied in value according to the supposed degree of the influence over the King.

She decided to have her rooms completely redecorated and furnished. What she liked of the objects d'art that Radclyffe had collected she saved; the rest she put up for auction.

She had everything on a scale of prodigious size and grandeur. The huge ante-room's only furnishings were wall hangings of green raw silk, a pair of life-sized black-marble Italian statues, and a battery of gift chairs. The drawing-room, seventy-five feet long by twenty-five wide, had walls hung with black and gold striped silk and pearl embroidered rugs were scattered over the floor. The furniture was coated thickly with gold-leaf—and the cushions were emerald velvet.

And her bedroom cost Amber more than all the rest of the apartment together. The entire room, floor to ceiling, was lined with mirrors brought from Venice. The floor was laid with black Genoese marble. On the ceiling an artist named Streeter had depicted the loves of Jupiter. The bed, an immense four-posted structure with a massive tester, was covered with beaten silver; each chair was cushioned in scarlet. The widow hangings were silver-embroidered and velvet. And sunk flush with the wall was an intimate portrait of Amber painted by Peter Lely.

The room represented to her everything she had ever believed she wanted from life; and all she had got. It was her symbol of success.

But it was not enough, now she had it, to make her happy. She was never able to make herself forget Bruce Carlton. He would not leave her mind, no matter what she was doing. When Almsbury visited her she asked eagerly for news of him. But he had none. She opened her heart to Almsbury and told him she had never truly loved another man but Bruce. And Almsbury answered her: "You're in love with three of us: the King, Bruce and me. And each one of us, I think, loves you. But you won't get any happiness from any of it because you want more than we are willing to give."

And now it was that Amber began to take a hand in the politics and intrigues of the Court. There was Arlington, bitter enemy of her Lord Buckingham. And because of Buckingham's temporary alliance with Lady Castlemaine, Amber threw in her lot with Arlington who sought her influence with the King.

And in turn there was Buckingham, who had been proscribed, arraigned, and released back into favour once more. And because of Arlington and Buckingham's mutual hatred of Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, the Chancellor, there was a truce between them. There was Clifford and Ashley and Lauderdale and because of the initial letters of those five, when they replaced Clarendon's government, they called it the Cabal.

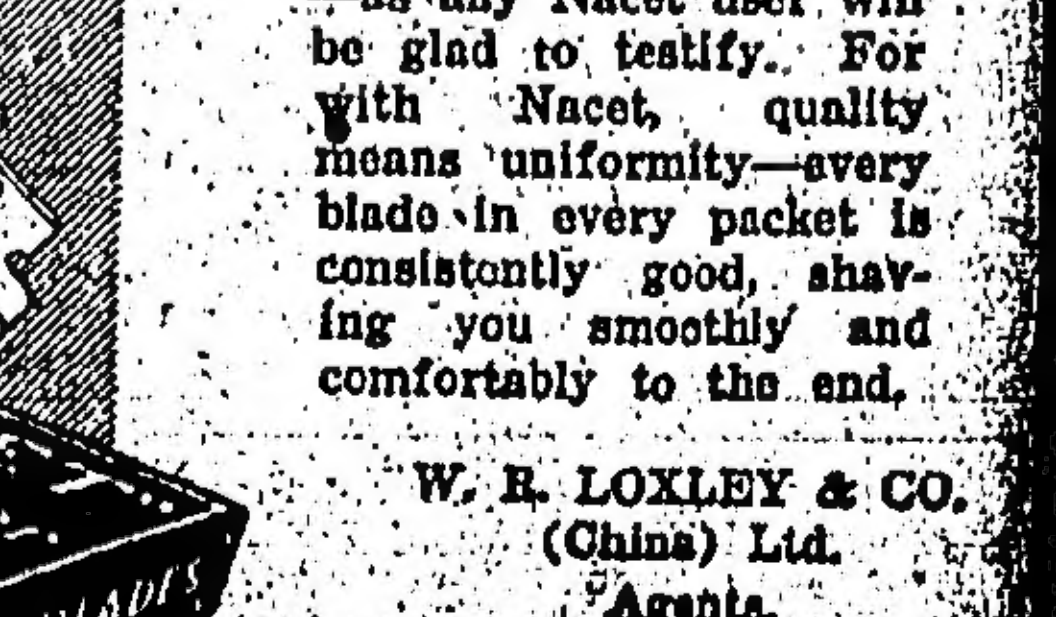
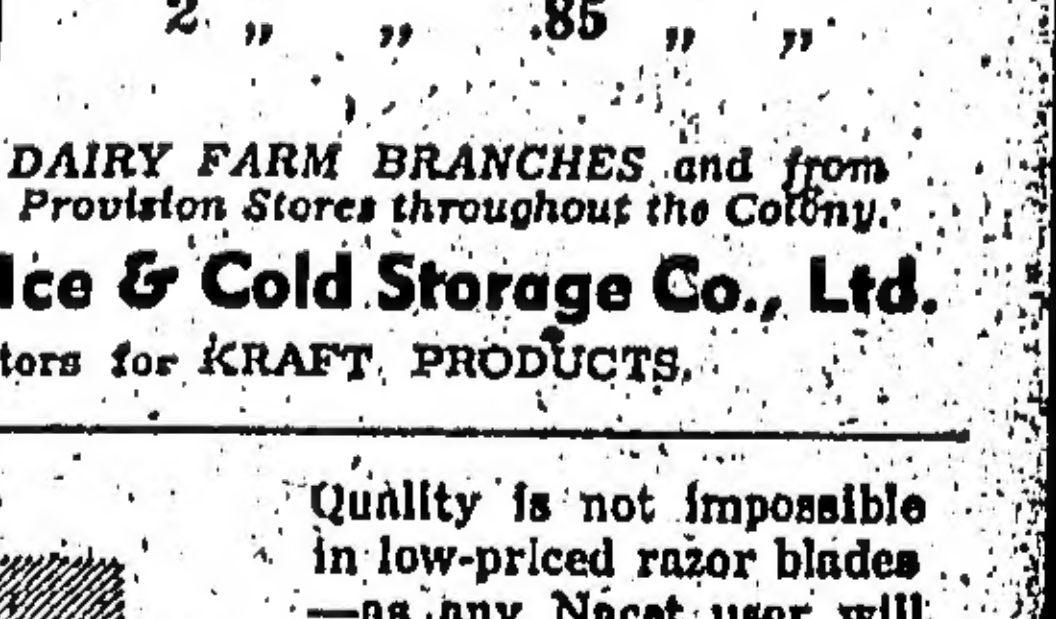
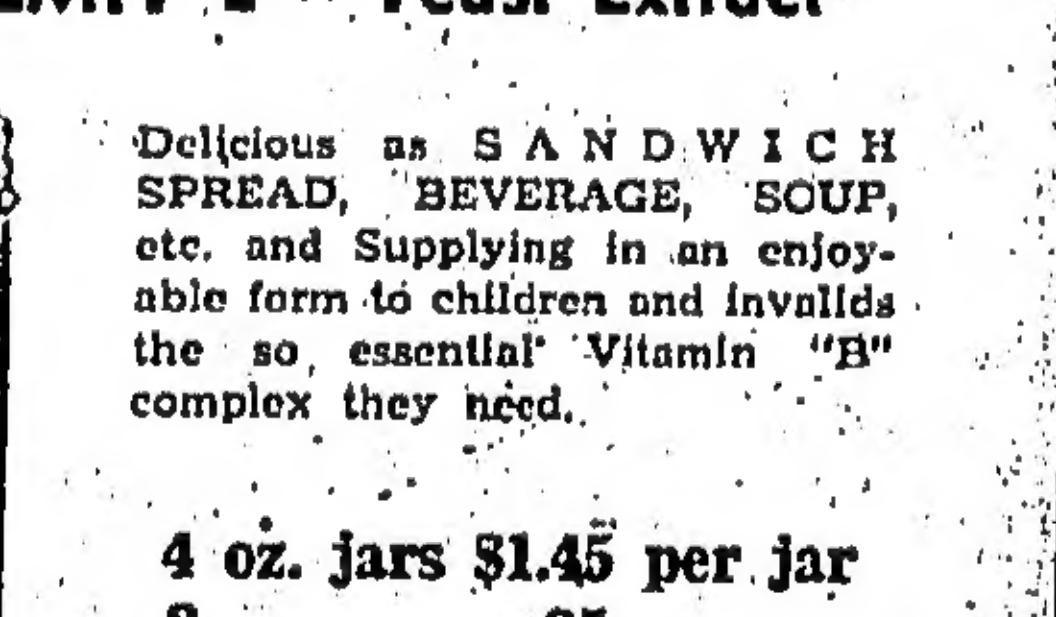
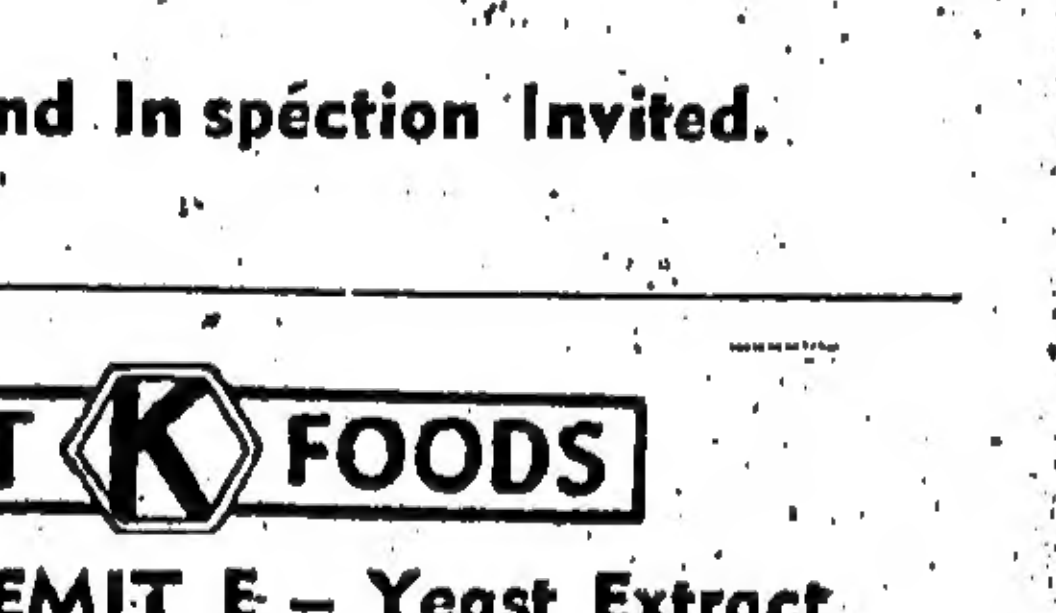
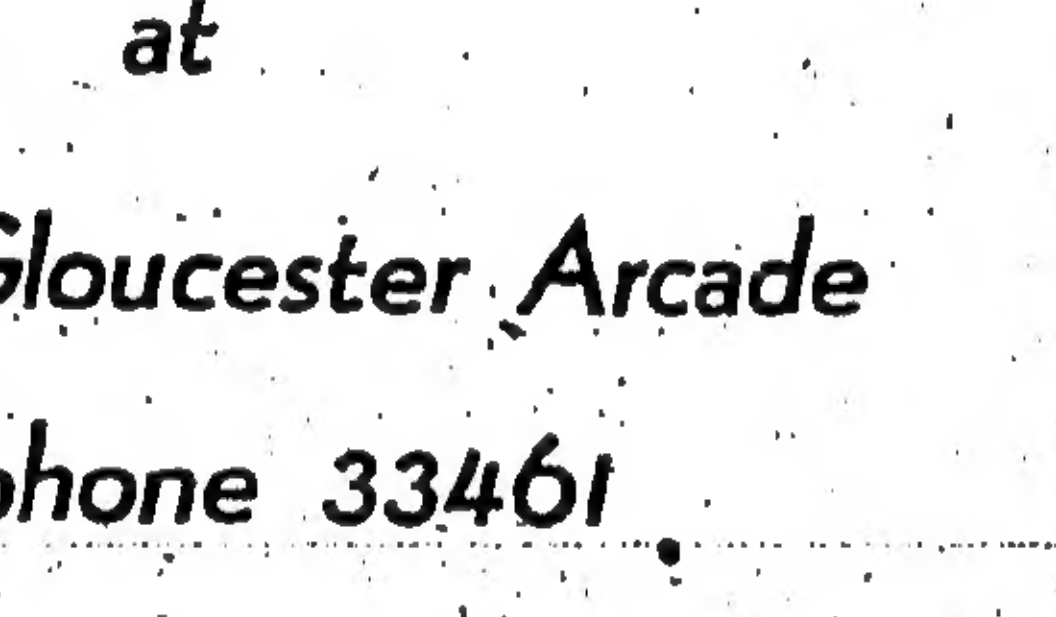
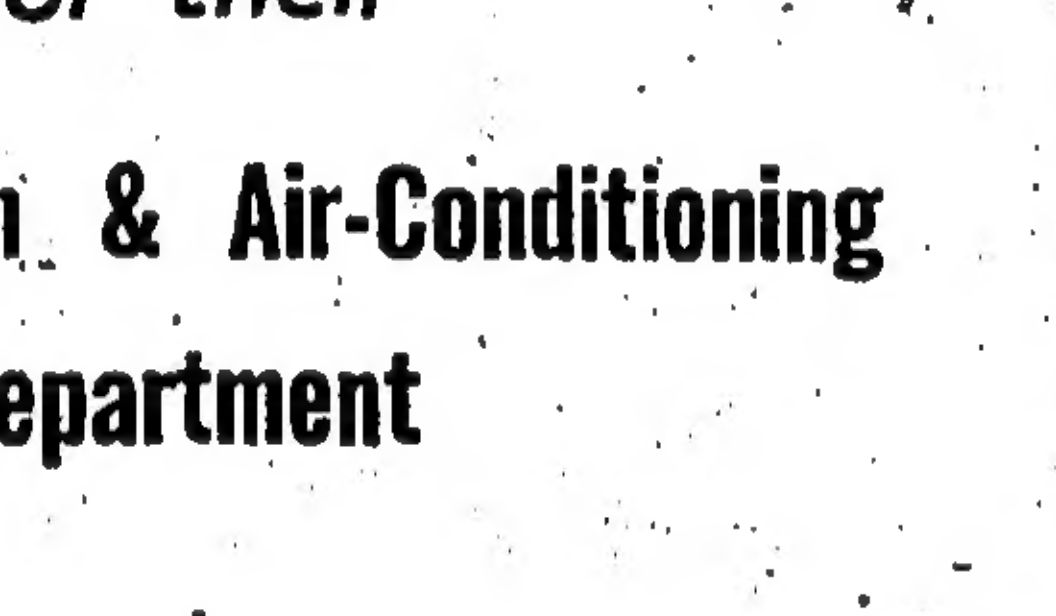
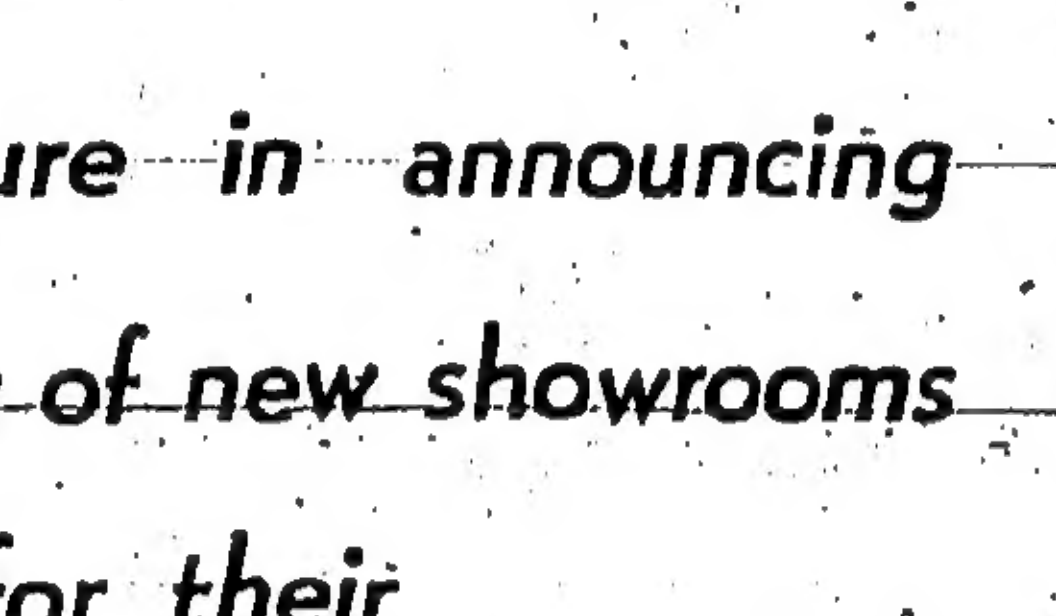
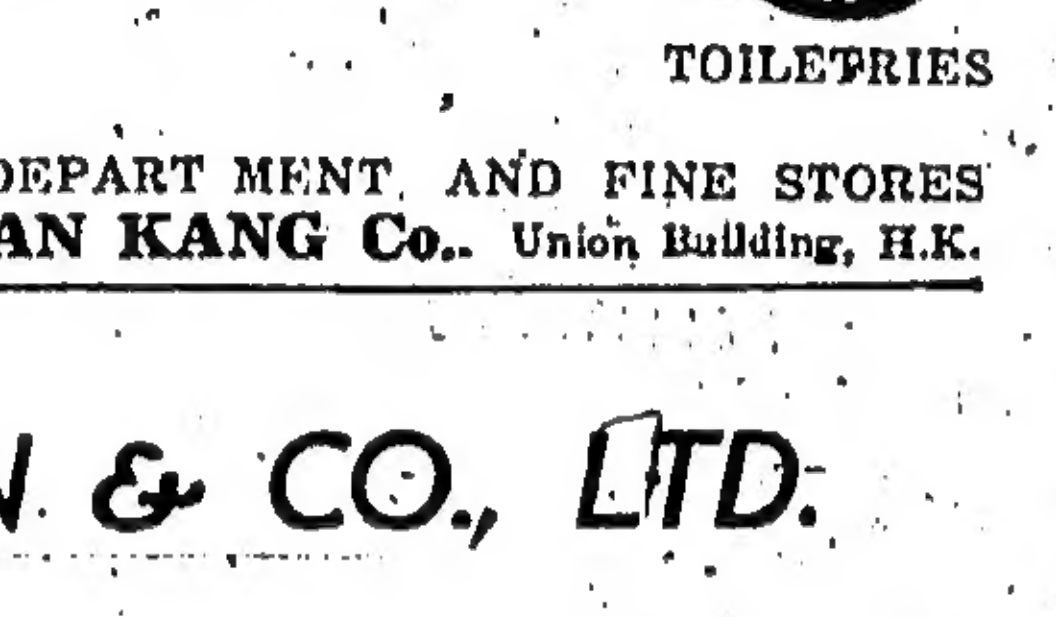
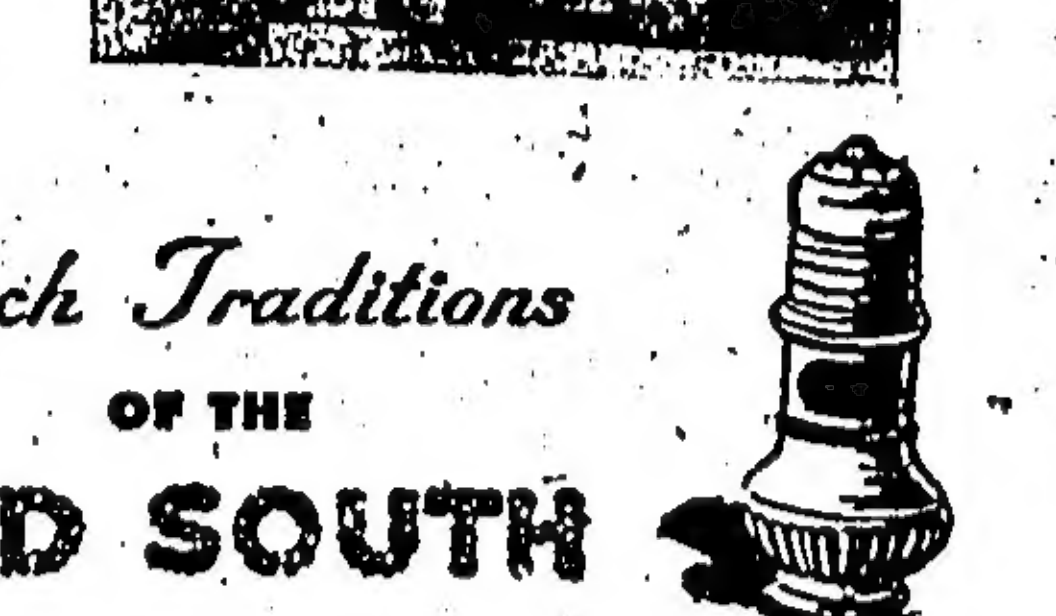
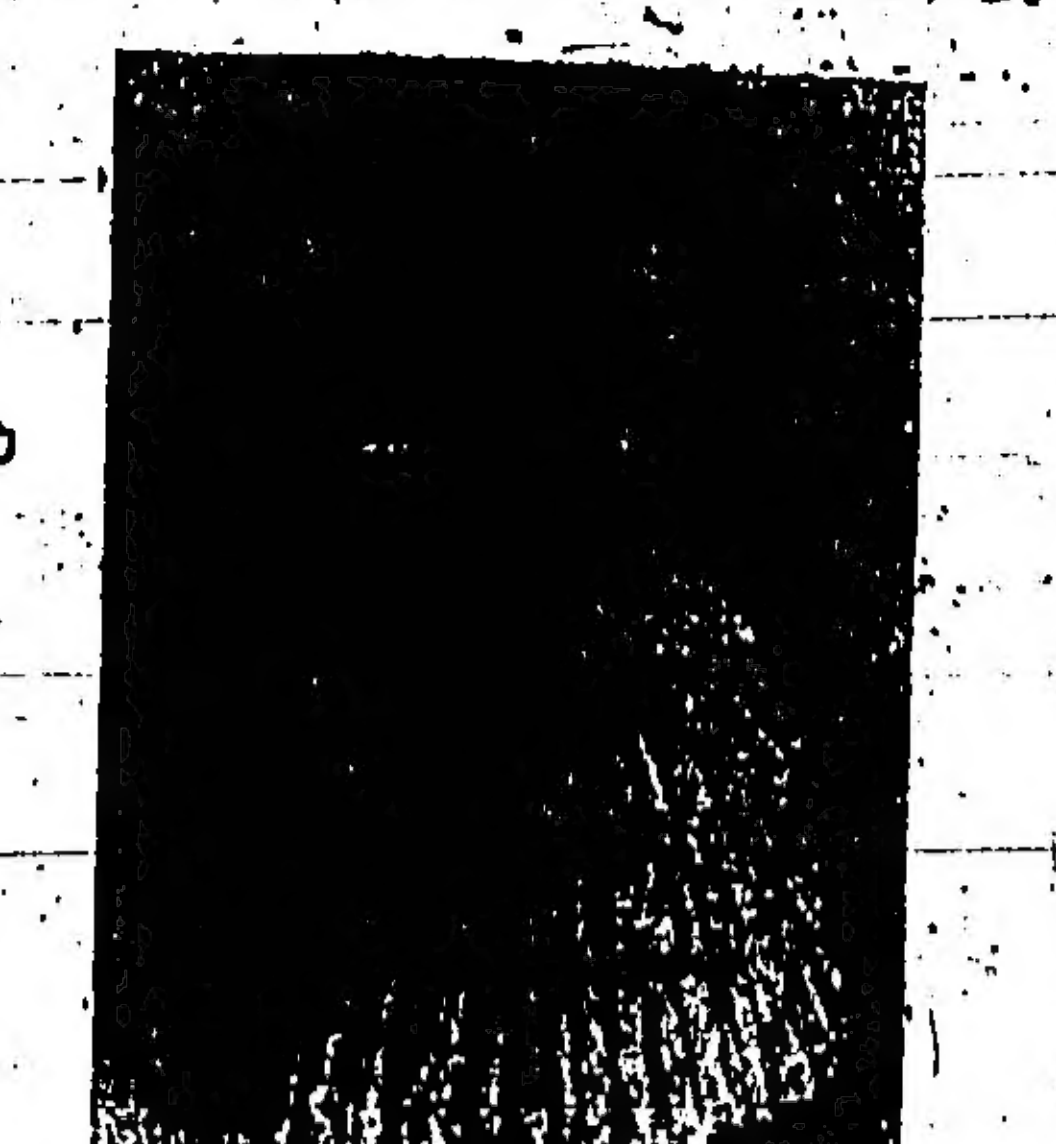
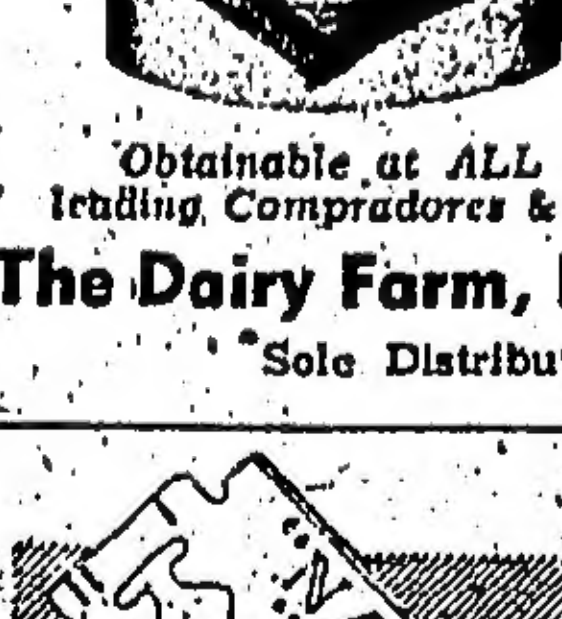
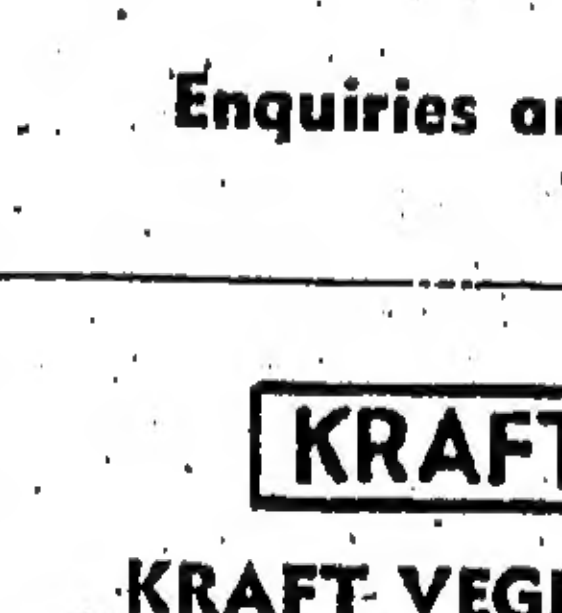
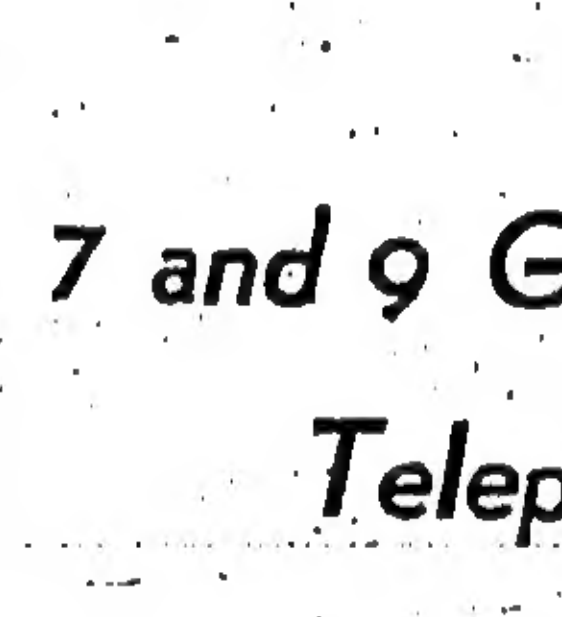
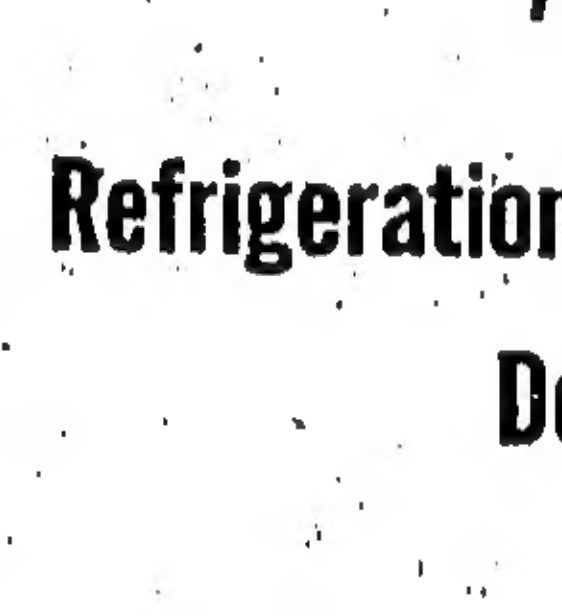
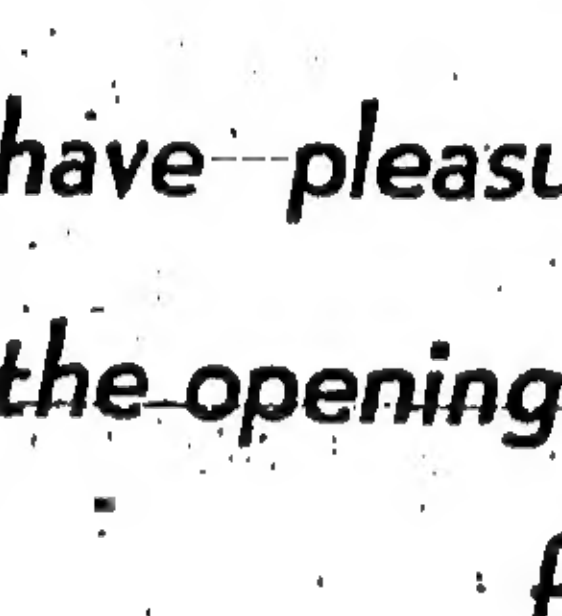
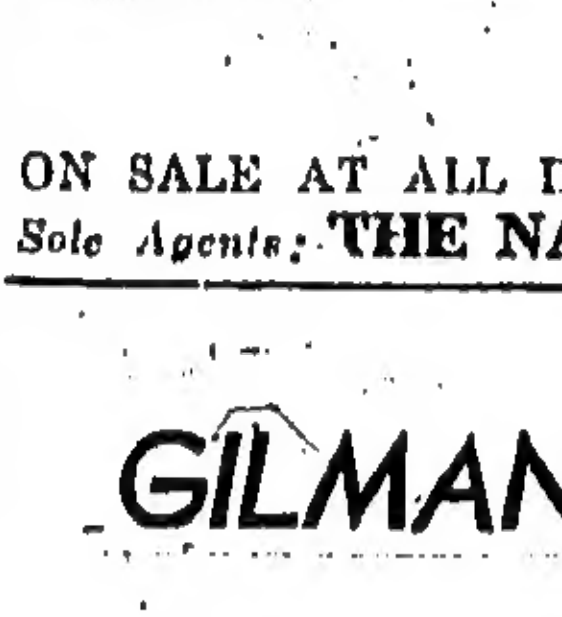
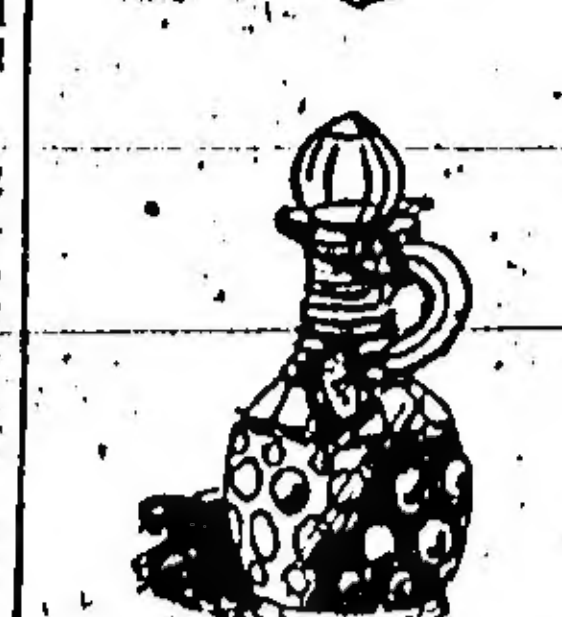
It was Buckingham who told Amber first that Castlemaine was finished so far as the King was concerned. "It leaves a place wide open for some clever woman to step into," he hinted to her. And then, enrolling her as an ally in his intrigues, but Amber had not come so far as she had done without will of her own. She knew the Duke of Buckingham's complete egotism and so she merely pretended to be his friend, who keeping herself on the right side of Arlington in case she might ever need his services. It had been the Earl of Rochester who had said that the three businesses of the age were politics, women, and drinking—and the first two at least were never quite separate.

"Old Rowley" said Buckingham to her one day, "has been governing by a woman since he first took snuff from his wet-nurse. If you will be guided by me, I think we might go near to ruling England to our own design."

But Amber had no design for moulding England and she wished to invent one. Politics, national or international, did not concern her except as they affected her personal wealth and ambition.

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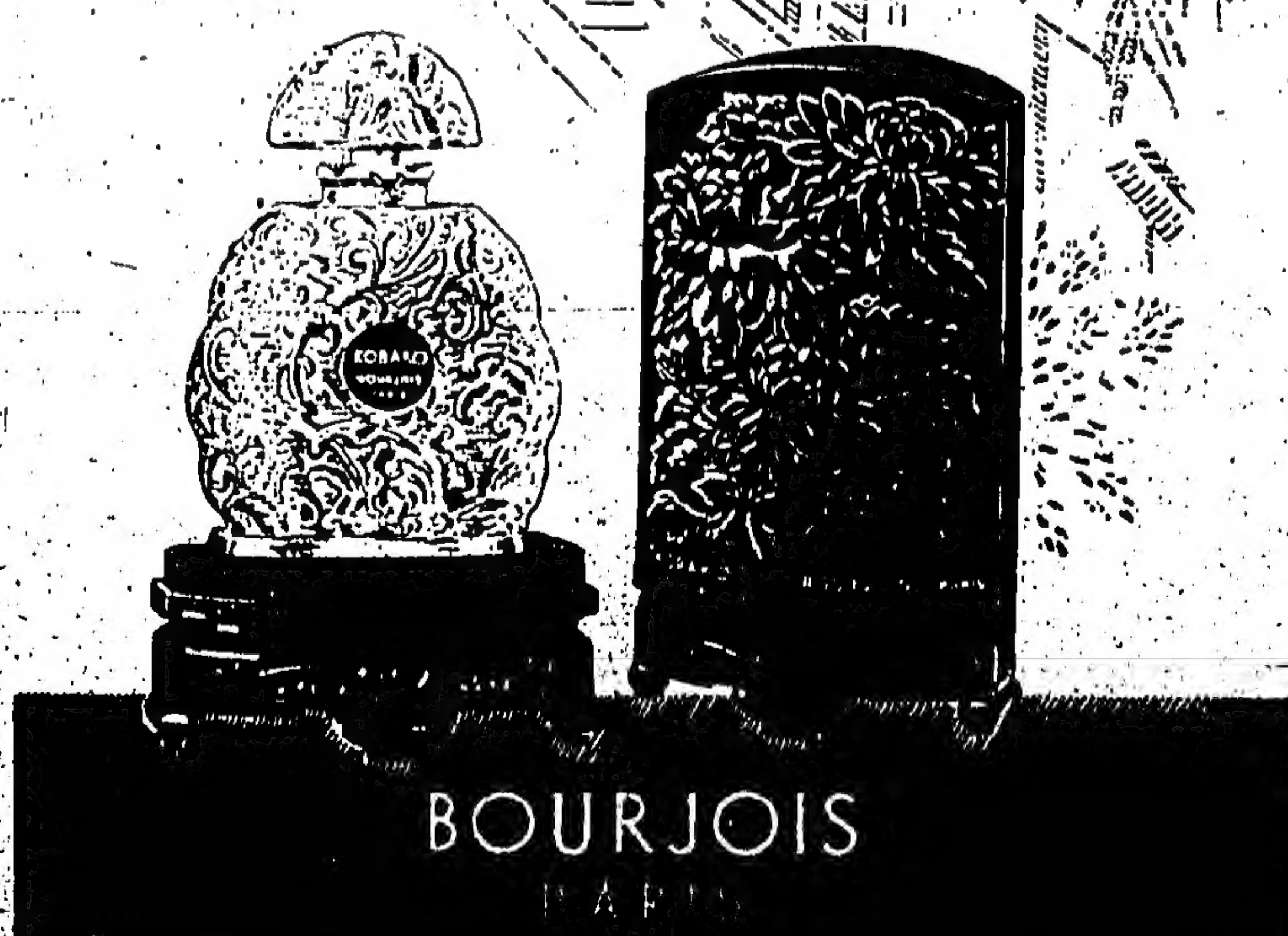
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King Opens Parliament In Capetown

Capetown, Feb. 21.
The King opened the ninth session of the South African Parliament at Capetown today. In a ceremony which surpassed for colour and drama any since the Union's first Parliament was inaugurated in 1910, the King affirmed the aim to strengthen cordial Commonwealth relations and ties with other countries.

After a drive through crowded streets the King and Queen arrived at Parliament House to the accompaniment of a salute of guns.

His Majesty was dressed in the tropical uniform of Admiral of the Fleet with ceremonial sword. The Queen wore white.

The King's speech was simple but impressive. "This is the first occasion," said His Majesty, "on which I have been able to open a session of Parliament in any of my Dominions. I welcome the opportunity of doing so."

The King paid tribute to the Union's war effort saying that it had brought him great comfort in a period of trial.

"You are now dealing with the problems of peace," he continued, "a peace which must be based on the principles of freedom and justice. It is to secure for that there is a call for courage, goodwill, and the effective cooperation of all

who desire the welfare of humanity."

"To that end" declared His Majesty, "my Government has sought to work in close consultation with other members of my Commonwealth in matters of common concern."

"It will be the constant aim of my Ministers to promote the happiness and prosperity of my peoples in the Union and to maintain the cordial relations which it enjoys with the members of my Commonwealth and with other nations."

At the conclusion of his speech, the King read the opening sentence in Afrikaans, then asked that the entire speech be read in that language.

Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret watched the proceedings from a balcony. The Royal Family were due later to board their train, which will stop for the night at a vineyard about 60 miles from Capetown. Associated Press.

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